

CITY OF

BENBROOK



TEXAS



2021 Annual Report

Annual Report Contents

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Leadership

City Departments



***Fire and Police
Emergency Response***
911

Police Department
Chief David Babcock
817-249-2752
(Administration)

Animal Control
817-249-1610

Fire Department
Chief Tommy Davis
817-249-1727
(Administration)

City Manager
Andy Wayman
817-249-3000

***City Secretary
Civil Service***
Joanna King
817-249-3000

***Assistant City Manager
Building Inspections
TIF Board
Planning
Community Development***
Jim Hinderaker
817-249-6005

***Public Services
Public Works
Code Enforcement
Parks***
Bennett Howell
817-249-6063

***Economic Development
Marketing
Tourism***
Jessica James
817-249-6990

Finance Department
Rick Overgaard
817-249-6001

STAY UP TO DATE:

Watch public meetings live on our Benbrook Government
Access Cable Channel: Spectrum, Channel 190



www.benbrook-tx.gov



Message from City Council



(Left to Right) Front Row: Laura Mackey-Place 6, Jason Ward, Mayor-Place 1, Dr. Larry Marshall-Place 3
Back Row: Gary Addison-Place 5, Dustin Phillips-Place 4, Renee Franklin-Place 2, Keith Tiner-Place 7

In 2021, the City of Benbrook experienced both challenges and progress. As a community, we continued to live with and adapt to the ongoing impact of the pandemic. These efforts were complicated by the historic winter storm. Through it all, Benbrook citizens showed great resolve and continued to help and support each other. Because of 2021's unprecedented challenges, the City of Benbrook quickly adapted to this ever-changing environment to ensure residents had the services and resources they needed. 2021 was also an exciting time for Benbrook, as residents approved a \$22 million bond to build a municipal complex for a new police station, senior citizens center, municipal court, visitor center, and city hall. This investment will provide residents new space for a one-stop shop of city services and serve as an anchor for Benbrook's downtown development vision.

The City implemented new ways to improve communication with our residents. TextMyBenbrook messaging service was initiated to make it easier for residents to engage the City. This communication tool provides residents

with another option to report non-emergency concerns such as potholes, code violations, or missed garbage pickups by simply sending a text. This new service allows residents to report these concerns anytime, and from anywhere.

Despite rapidly changing economic conditions, Benbrook experienced growth throughout the year with several new quality residential and commercial developments. These included housing options for senior living, apartments, and single-family homes. Benbrook's business friendly atmosphere also attracted new businesses such as American Masonry Supply, Inc., Ace Hardware, Payne's Florist & Gifts, Wingstop, Tint World, and Black Rifle Coffee Co. There are also several new businesses under construction including the Basis Charter School, Audi Dealership, Taco Bueno, Chipotle Mexican Grill, and Russell Feed & Supply. These business investments in our community total more than \$24 million.

We were excited that 2021 marked the return of many of our outstanding community events, which help make

Benbrook the community we all love. Residents were able to attend Benbrook's Artisans and Farmers Market throughout the year. Benbrook's Heritage Fest had a record attendance as it attracted not only residents, but also visitors from other communities. In addition, Benbrook's 30th Annual Tree Lighting and Fireworks Show proved to be one of our best. Families and friends tailgated before the event and enjoyed hot cocoa while they watched Mr. & Mrs. Claus ride in on the Fire Truck before the fireworks and tree lighting. Furthermore, the Benbrook Senior Citizens Center reopened and was able to provide many different quality activities for our active seniors to enjoy.

It is an exciting time to live in an exceptional community like Benbrook. There are many opportunities that we have to look forward to in 2022 and beyond. We are proud of Benbrook's accomplishments in 2021, and we look forward to our continued service to you and this community.

Thank You,
Benbrook City Council

Awards [&] Special Recognitions

Benbrook Scenic City Award

Benbrook was one of only **[22]** cities in Texas that earned a Gold/Platinum Award in the nationally recognized Scenic City Certification Program in 2021 from the Scenic Texas, Inc. This is the third consecutive time Benbrook has been recognized as one of the top communities in Texas for creating a more scenic environment in the community for visitors and residents to enjoy while preserving historic sites and improving parks and green spaces.



City Improves Bond Credit Rating

In 2021, the City of Benbrook improved its credit rating from an AA- to an AA+ with S&P Global, as it demonstrated its strong creditworthiness through sound financial management and liquidity.

Excellence in Financial Reporting Award

The City of Benbrook's Finance Department was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by the City of Benbrook and its management.

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

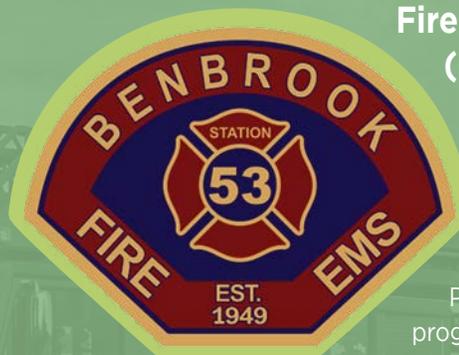
The City of Benbrook's Finance Department received the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget. There were over **[1,600]** participants in the Budget Awards Program. Budgets must be rated proficient in four different categories, and fourteen mandatory criteria within these categories, to receive this highly distinguished award.

Planning Excellence Award

In 2021, Benbrook received the Certificate for Planning Excellence from the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association. This award recognizes cities that demonstrate professional planning standards, increase awareness of professional planning, and aid in economic development and community image.

Public Services

The City of Benbrook has successfully improved its Community Rating System (CRS) score from a Class 7 to a Class 6, which will decrease flood insurance premiums by **[15%]** to **[20%]** citywide. The CRS program is a voluntary program under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) allowing communities to earn flood insurance discounts. Under FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), cities can earn points for conducting floodplain management activities that surpass the minimum NFIP requirements, ranging from preserving open space to disseminating information on flood insurance.



Fire Department's ISO (Insurance Services Office) Rating

The Benbrook Fire Department maintained its outstanding Class 2 ISO Rating, known as the Public Protection Classification (PPC) program. This program assesses the ability of local fire departments to protect their community and homes. This rating puts the Benbrook Fire Department in the top **[4%]** of the country, which can help lower the cost of Benbrook homeowners' insurance.

Community Programs & Events

TextMyBenbrook – TextMyBenbrook messaging service was initiated to make it easier for residents to engage the City. This new service provides residents another option to report non-emergency concerns such as potholes, code violations, or missed garbage pickups by simply sending a text to 817-443-6249.



Community Environmental Events – In 2021, the residents did their part in helping to keep Benbrook beautiful by participating in five different community environmental events. The 29th Annual Benbrook Trash Bash was held at Dutch Branch Park and 252 residents participated in the event. This event engages residents of all ages and provides the opportunity for them to show their community pride. In addition, 161 residents participated in the Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. There were also 364 residents who utilized the Household Hazardous Waste processing center through a partnership with the Fort Worth EEC. In addition, there were three E-Waste/Shred events held where citizens recycled their electronics and old paper. These events help to keep Benbrook clean.



Benbrook Heritage Fest – After having to take a year off in 2020, Benbrook saddled up and hosted one of the largest Benbrook Heritage Fests ever. It was packed full of exciting western entertainment, musical and dance performances, wagon rides, and a chuckwagon dinner. The new dog costume contest, stick horse race competition, and homemade pie baking contest proved to be crowd favorites.



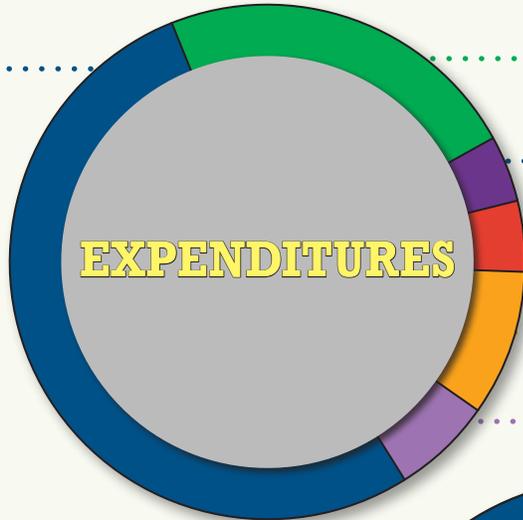
Senior Citizens Center – Senior citizens were excited to see the center open back up in 2021. They hosted three dances, weekly games and activities, and their Annual Rummage Sale raised \$3,500 for the center.

Benbrook's 30th Annual Tree Lighting and Fireworks Show – The Benbrook Fire Department hosted Benbrook's 30th Annual Tree Lighting and Fireworks Show. The event proved to be one of Benbrook's best shows ever with thousands of residents tailgating and watching Mr. & Mrs. Claus ride in on the Fire Truck.



Financial Highlights

Public Safety
\$9,649,120



Streets, Parks,
Fleet & Bldg. Maint.
\$4,175,249

Community Development
\$776,038

Administration
\$828,005

Non Departmental
\$1,653,040

Staff Support Services
\$1,159,286

Other Revenue • \$39,433 • 0.2%

Use of Money and Property • \$91,186 • 0.4%

Licenses and Permits • \$504,049 • 2.1%

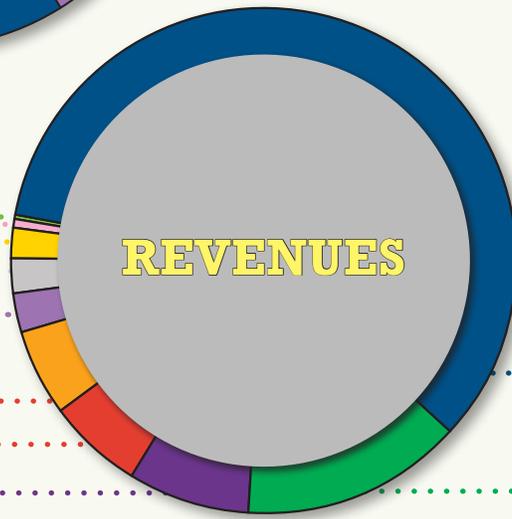
Revenue from Other Agencies • \$518,927 • 2.2%

Fines and Forfeitures • \$617,919 • 2.6%

Transfers • \$1,311,590 • 5.5%

Franchise Taxes • \$1,443,260 • 6.1%

Charges for Current Services • \$1,820,481 • 7.6%



Ad Valorem Taxes
\$14,098,749 • 59.1%

Sales and Other Taxes
\$3,402,472 • 14.3%



Where Your Property Tax Dollars Go

Fort Worth ISD
1.343200
53%
\$2,989

City of Benbrook
0.617500
24%
\$1,374

Tarrant County
0.229000
9%
\$510

Tarrant County Hospital
0.224429
9%
\$499

Tarrant County College District
0.130170
5%
\$290

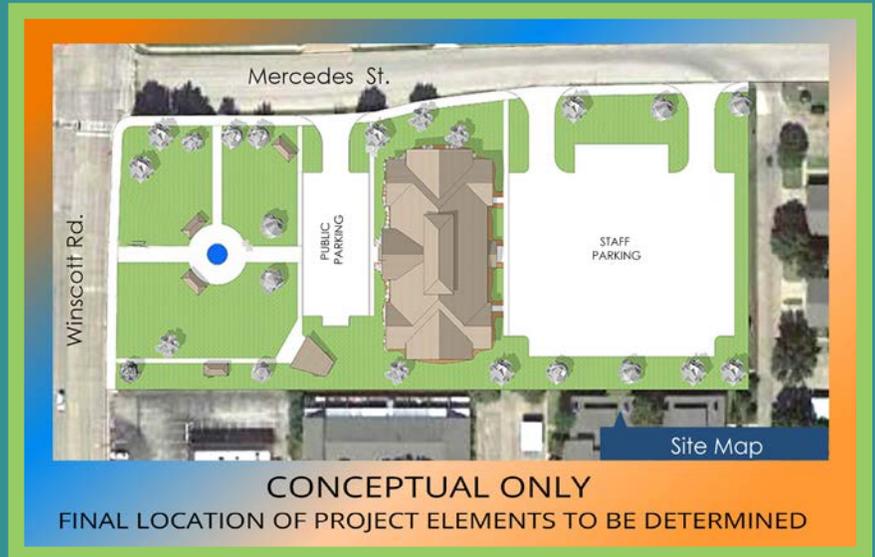


AVERAGE TAXABLE VALUE OF SINGLE FAMILY HOME \$222,506

Community Investment

2021

During a special election in May of 2021, the citizens voted to approve **\$22 million** in general obligation bonds to be used to design and construct a new two-story, approximately 35,000 square foot Benbrook Municipal Complex. The complex will act as an anchor for a proposed downtown development and provide for a new Police Station, Senior Citizens Center, Municipal Court, City Hall, and a Visitor's Center. The planned outdoor amenities include a large greenspace for picnics/relaxation, a water fountain/splash feature for public enjoyment, and a band shell for festivals and events on the grounds. The complex will be built on the existing Senior Citizens Center building site, which is located between the current City Hall and Police Station.



WHERE WILL THE PROPOSED NEW MUNICIPAL COMPLEX BE LOCATED?

On the site of the existing Senior Citizen's building, 1010 Mercedes Street, located behind City Hall.

HOW DID THIS PROJECT COME ABOUT?

As part of the City's updated 2020 Comprehensive Plan, a Citizens Committee recommended a new Municipal Complex to replace several existing municipal buildings, and to act as an anchor for a proposed downtown development. An evaluation of existing municipal buildings revealed aging construction, ADA non-compliance, limited space, and safety challenges.

WHAT ABOUT PUBLIC INPUT?

The Citizens Committee hosted public meetings and open houses to solicit public input prior to making a recommendation. Public hearings were also held by the Planning and Zoning Commission and by City Council.

DID THIS PROJECT INCREASE MY PROPERTY TAX RATE?

No. The project did not result in a property tax rate increase. The City utilized funds from existing debt that was paid off towards a new bond, along with funds in the current budget, to finance the project.



Development

\$80,000

IN BEDC GRANTS



ISSUED

1,146

BUILDING PERMITS



PERFORMED

3,686

TOTAL INSPECTIONS



The Benbrook Economic Development Corporation provided more than \$80,000 in grants to local businesses and property owners through the Storefront Improvement Grant Program. This program is aimed at helping assist local businesses and property owners to improve their storefronts and make their buildings more sustainable for the future of Benbrook.

New Businesses OPENED IN 2021

- American Masonry Supply, Inc.
- Ace Hardware
- Payne’s Florist & Gifts
- Wingstop
- Black Rifle Coffee Co.



There are also several new businesses under construction including:

- Basis Charter School
- Audi Dealership
- Taco Bueno
- Sonshine Preschool
- Tint World
- Chipotle Mexican Grill
- Russell Feed & Supply

These business investments into our community totaled more than.....

\$24

MILLION

Residential Plats

192

lots between Brookside Phase 4A, Whitestone Heights Phase 2, and Whitestone Crest Phase 2

81.177 ACRES

Non-Residential Plats

11

LOTS

21.516

ACRES

Police Department



ANIMAL CONTROL
RECEIVED

1,349

CALLS WITHIN
THE COMMUNITY



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

POLICE DEPARTMENT
RESPONDED TO

14,576
CALLS



Community Events

- National Night Out
- Hosted two Drug Take-Back Events
- October Drug Take-Back Event obtained 352 lbs of unused medicine and prescriptions
- Partnered with Walmart and hosted a Christmas toy drive event. Toys were delivered to ACH Child and Family Services.

5,170

ATTENDED HOURS
OF SPECIALIZED AND
ADVANCED TRAINING

493 Citizens on Patrol
HOURS Volunteered

The Benbrook Citizens on Patrol (COPs) is a volunteer organization that assists the Benbrook Police Department with special events and during critical incidents. Members also perform regular patrols to observe and report criminal activity, crime hazards, and suspicious behavior.

Fire Department



Main goal:

Protecting lives and property in Benbrook and surrounding areas from fire and other emergencies.



4,200

TOTAL CALLS
RESPONDED TO FOR SERVICE

The Benbrook Fire Department performs many types of services. Firefighting is only part of the job. The Fire Department also manages Emergency Medical Services (EMS), conducts classes on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), performs rescue operations, controls hazardous spills, conducts fire inspections, and enforces fire codes.

The Benbrook Fire Department purchased a new fire ladder truck in 2021. The ladder truck was purchased through an air quality grant which saved the city \$325,000 towards the purchase. The department also received a grant through Tarrant County to assist with the purchase of seven new sets of firefighting bunker gear and two Lucas CPR compression systems for the ambulances.



Public Services

The City of Benbrook has been recognized as a Bronze Level recipient by the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition for reducing petroleum consumption in its vehicle fleet.

The City of Benbrook received this award by helping to improve air quality based on reduced fuel consumption, idle reduction policies, and fuel economy improvements by replacing

the aging fleet with more fuel-efficient vehicles. The recognition includes a certificate and Bronze Fleet stickers that can be placed on City vehicles.

The Public Services Divisions include:

- Engineering
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Works
- Building Maintenance
- Fleet
- Code Enforcement

The responsibilities for the department include:

- Engineering
- Maintaining parks and landscaping in public spaces
- Building maintenance
- Maintaining streets, curbs, and drainage areas
- Assisting with the annual overlay program
- Maintaining and installing traffic signs and barricades
- Street sweeping
- Maintaining traffic signals
- Code enforcement
- Maintaining City fleet

PUBLIC WORKS
DIVISION
MAINTAINS
102 MILES
OF STREETS



PARKS AND
RECREATION
DIVISION
MAINTAINS

434 ACRES
OF PARK LAND

81 ACRES OF
OPEN SPACE





City of Benbrook
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911 Winscott Road
Benbrook, Texas 76126-0569

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